

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add Claims 35 and 36 as follows:

1. to 29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously Presented) A liquid container comprising:

a liquid containing portion in which liquid is to be contained;

a liquid supply orifice which supplies the liquid contained in said liquid containing portion to outside;

a plurality of approximately-polygonal prisms made of light-transmitting material, each having a surface integrated with an external wall surface of said liquid containing portion as well as a plurality of reflection surfaces, different from said external wall surface, which serve as an optical interface with respect to the liquid, and which have a predetermined angle with respect to an optical path of light emitted from a light source in a predetermined position outside said liquid containing portion,

wherein said plurality of prisms are arranged in a top edge direction of said plurality of prisms.

31. (Previously Presented) The liquid container according to Claim 30, wherein said liquid container has a shape with a flat lengthwise direction, and

the top edge direction of said plurality of prisms is in the same direction as the flat lengthwise direction of said liquid container.

32. (Previously Presented) The liquid container according to Claim 30, wherein said liquid container used in a printing apparatus which includes scanning means for holding and scanning said liquid container, and

wherein a scanning direction of said scanning means is crossed to the top edge direction of said plurality of prisms when said scanning means holds said liquid container.

33. (Previously Presented) The liquid container according to Claim 30, wherein said plurality of prisms are provided on the same surface of said liquid container where the liquid supply orifice is provided.

34. (Previously Presented) The liquid container according to Claim 30, wherein said liquid containing portion is divided into plural portions by at least one partitioning wall, and

wherein said plurality of prisms are provided in an interior side of one of the plural portions, each having a communicating path with a neighboring portion.

35. (New) In a liquid container mountable on plural types of printing apparatuses provided with respective optical units, in different positions from each other, each comprised of a light-emitting device and a light-receiving device, for printing by discharging liquid, comprising:

a liquid containing portion in which liquid is contained;

a liquid supply orifice which supplies the liquid contained in said liquid containing portion to outside;

a plurality of approximately-polygonal prisms made of light-transmitting material, each having a surface integrated with an external wall surface of said liquid containing portion as well as a plurality of reflection surfaces, different from said external wall surface, which serve as an optical interface with respect to the liquid, and which have a predetermined angle with respect to an optical path of light emitted from a light source in a predetermined position outside said liquid containing portion,

wherein each of said plurality of prisms alone is capable of detecting existence/absence of the liquid contained in said liquid containing portion,

said liquid containing portion is partitioned from another space by a partition wall, and

said plurality of prisms are arranged in a lengthwise direction of said plurality of prisms on a surface where a communicating path between said partitioned liquid containing portion and said another space is provided.

36. (New) In a liquid container mountable on plural types of printing apparatuses provided with respective optical units, in different positions from each other, each comprised of a light-emitting device and a light-receiving device, for printing by discharging liquid, comprising:

a liquid containing portion in which liquid is contained;

a liquid supply orifice which supplies the liquid contained in said liquid containing portion to outside;

a plurality of approximately-polygonal prisms made of light-transmitting material, each having a surface integrated with an external wall surface of said liquid containing portion as well as a plurality of reflection surfaces, different from said external wall surface, which serve as an optical interface with respect to the liquid, and which have a predetermined angle with respect to an optical path of light emitted from a light source in a predetermined position outside said liquid containing portion,

wherein each of said plurality of prisms alone is capable of detecting existence/absence of the liquid contained in said liquid containing portion, and

said plurality of prisms are arranged in a lengthwise direction of said plurality of prisms on a bottom surface where said liquid container is horizontally mounted on any of said plural types of printing apparatuses.